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EXT. 54858/JPW/GJ
Docket No. 54858/JPW/GJ

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Howard J. Worman and Naoto Mamiya
Serial No.: 09/407,432 Examiner: L. Scheiner
Filed : September 29, 1999 Group Art Unit: 1648
For : HCV CORE PROTEIN BINDING AGENTS FOR TREATMENT OF
HEPATITIS C VIRUS INFECTION

1185 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10036
September 28, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Entered in - Part

**AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO MARCH 28, 2001 OFFICE
ACTION AND PETITION FOR A THREE-MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME**

This Amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action issued March 28, 2001 in connection with the above-identified application. A response to the March 28, 2001 Office Action was due June 28, 2001. Applicants hereby request a three-month extension of time from June 28, 2001 to September 28, 2001 for responding to the March 28, 2001 Office Action. The required fee for the three-month extension of time is \$445.00 for a small entity and a check including this amount is enclosed. Therefore, a response to the March 28, 2001 Office Action is now due September 28, 2001 and this Amendment is being timely filed.

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 4-8, 15-19, 20-32, 45, 70 and 71 without prejudice to applicants' right to pursue the subject matter of these claims in this or a subsequent application.